THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

" Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello*

No. 6371. *THURSDAY, May* 26, 1842. *Price* 1*d.*

" The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

A FREE Benefit was given last night at this Theatre for the sufferers by the calamitous fire at Hamburgh. The grand Opera of *Don Juan* was performed.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

SHAKSPERE'S Comedy of *As You Like It* was repeated at this house yesterday evening, and was as much applauded as on the night of Mr. C. Kean's Benefit. *A Lover by Proxy,* and *The Boarding School,* were the other entertainments. Mr. Farren will make his first appearance here these three seasons on Tuesday next, in the character of *Don Manuel,* in *She Would and She Would Not.* Sheridan Knowles's new Play, in five acts, will be produced here in the course of next week: it is entitled *The Rose of Aragon.*

The band of the Philharmonic will be called together this evening (Thursday,) to try over Mendelssohn's new symphony, preparatory to its being performed at the seventh concert. We believe that Spohr's new symphony will be performed on Monday next.

Destruction of a Theatre in New Orleans.—On Sunday evening, the 13th of March, about 6 o'clock, an alarm of fire was given, and it was soon discovered to have commenced its work of destruction in a shed and stable at the back part of 96, Camp-street, occupied by Quirk and Sons, cabinet makers. The stable adjoined the rear of St. Charles Theatre, aud the combustibles gave out a lofty flame in a few seconds. The engines were on the spot quite in time to have arrested the progress of the fire, could they have gotten in the rear, so as to have played on the St. Charles. In some ten minutes time the blaze ran up the wall of the Theatre, coursing along a covering of tar that had smeared the building in the process of hoisting this material for repairing the zinc roof. The paint room first took fire, the lambent flames entering a window that opened into it. Ten minutes more saw the whole building enveloped in a dense black smoke and bursting flames. By half-past seven o'clock, one hour and a half from the time the building caught, nothing but the walls and the magnificent proscenium arch were left standing. The fall of the great chandelier was distinctly heard. The fire next attacked the Arcade Bath building, and it fell a complete prey to the devouring element. The old Camp-street Theatre was saved with much difficulty, though one fourth of the rear of that building was crushed in, roof and all, by the fall of the wall of the Arcade. One man was killed by another, who threw a bottle at his head; another by a tumbling wall. Several men were seriously injured. The insurance on the St. Charles and arcade is 30,000 dollars. The arcade was sold by Mr. Caldwell last summer to the Gas Company, and the Theatre also; but on the condition that at the end of three years, Mr. Caldwell should have the privilege of re-purchasing it for the sum of 100,000 dollars in the space of three years more. All the scenery, fittings, decorations, and chandelier, &c., belonged to Mr. Caldwell, who was not insured. He estimates his loss at 70,000 dollars, at a low va-

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luation. On the Camp-street Theatre, which is now occupied above as a billiard-room, and below as an auction mart, he had no insurance. The injury done to this building is estimated at 10,000 dollars. Had the catastrophe happened two hours later, no one knows what the consequences might have been. There must have been 20,000 people in the vicinity gazing on the destruction of the noble pile of the St. Charles, and the regrets were long and loud. It was the pride of the city. Early in the last month the patrons and friends of Mr. Caldwell were making the most strenuous exertions to rebuild the St. Charles Theatre in New Orleans in time to commence the season next autumn.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer,

Dear Mr. Editor, I address you from the elegant Cigar Divan and Lounge, 366, Strand, (corner of Burleigh Street,) having just popt in to luxuriate on a capital cup of Coffee, and a true Havannah, skim the Newspapers, and play a game at Billiards—delightful place—no charge for admission—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll to Madame Tussaud's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-street, Portman-square.—Just added to her unrivalled collection the King of Prussia, the Prince of Wales, Commissioner Lin and his Consort, modelled for this exhibition by Lamqua, of Canton, with the original magnificent dresses,&c. obtained at a great risk ; the only figures of the kind ever seen in Europe. Also just added, the Princess Royal, in her beautiful cot, with the gorgeous Robes of George the Fourth designed by himself at a cost of 18,000*l.*

Tuesday, paid another visit to the Thames Tunnel as it will be shortly closed to the public, in order to make the necessary preparations for opening it as a thoroughfare for foot passengers. It is open daily, (Sunday excepted) from 9 in the morning until dark, and lighted with gas. The Tunnel is now completed, and is 1,200 feet in length, and the present entrance is on the Surrey side of the river, close to Rotherhithe Church.

Afterwards, I am to be found admiring the beautiful collection of Paintings at the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, East, which is now open for the season—crowded with fashionables—Admission 1s. Intend to join the Conversazione, subscription 1*l.* 1*s.*

You may talk of eye snuff, but after having the head-ache for a year, popped into Perring's, 85, Strand. got one of his superb Beavers, so light lost the head-ache in a minute—was shewn one of his elegant Velvet Hats, could not resist buying one of them also, price 13s—wonderful.

Thursday, call upon Messrs. Cocks & Co, Music-sellers to her Majesty, 20, Princes-street, Hanover Square, for *The Royal State Ball Waltzes*, for piano 3s. each, ditto duets 4s each, and orchestra 9s. each, by Strauss, Adelaiden, Deutsche Lust, and Apollo-Walzer ; Lanner's Victoria Royal Masque Waltzes, Liebes Traume, and Die Sonderlinge ; Labitzky's Prince Albert, Jubel Klange, New Aurora, Sutherland, Lilien, and Die Fashionablen ; also just published, Musard's Quadrilles, Giselle, La Fille du Regiment Les Soirees du Ranelagh, and L'Echarpe Rose, each 3s. ; also Rose d'Angleterre, 72 elegant Waltzes for the piano by the above authors, 6 books, each 3s. Catalogues to be had *gratis.*

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at Evans's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,– quite delighted with the excellence of the singing—commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Friday. called at Emmett's, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute ! also his improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impaired to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

Hearing of Wilson's famous New Footed Boots, called at his *depôt* for New, Misfitted, and Second-hand Boots and Shoes, 95, & 97, Holborn Hill, [opposite St. Andrew's Church,] found them of the most superior description both in fashion, make, and material, prices from 10s. 6d. to 16s.—also inspected his very best boots, which he makes to measure at 25s.—these cannot be surpassed. There is a distinct department for Ladies and Children at 97, which is very convenient.—Mrs. P. intends going

Saturday, I examine Miss Linwood's curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—lately added other beautiful specimens of her art.– But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's, &c.—PAUL PRY

Theatre Royal, English Opera.

This Evening, the Burlesque Burletta of

Olympic Revels.

Prometheus, Mr A. WIGAN, Swiss Boy, Mr HOWARD,
Pandora, Mrs H. P. GRATTAN,
Jupiter, Mr J. BLAND, Bacchus, Mr GRANBY,
Apollo, Miss HUGHES, Mercury, Miss MURRAY,
Venus, Miss FAIRBROTHER, Juno, Mrs TAYLEURE

After which, the Musical Farce of The

BEE HIVE.

Mingle..Mr HARLEY—in which he will sing
"When a Man Weds," and "Some say what can a Man Do,"
Major Rattan, Mr J. Bland, Joey, Mr Garden,
Captain Merton, Mr Barker,
Emily, Miss Murray, Mrs Mingle, Mrs Tayleure,
Cicely, Mrs HUMBY.

To be followed by the popular Farce of

A Day Well Spent

Bolt, Mr W. LACY, Mizzle, Mr OXBERRY,
Mr Cotton, Mr Granby, Cutaway, Mr Hemming,
Miss Brown, Mrs Tayleure, Mrs Chargely, Miss Hughes

After which, the Operatic Extravaganza of

Giovanni in London.

Giovanni, Mrs H. P. GRATTAN,
Mr Florentine Finnikin ..... Mr OXBERRY,
Leporello, Mr HARLEY, Popinjay, Mr J. VINING,
Pluto, Mr Bland, Mr Deputy English, Mr Granby,
Simkins, Mr F. Matthews, Mercury, Miss Murray,
Proserpine, Miss Fairbrother. Fan, Miss Pincott,
Mrs Leporella, Mrs Humby, Constantia, Miss Hughes.

To conclude with, a Grand Ballet, in Two Acts, entitled

LA SYLPHIDE

Donald, Mr GILBERT, Christie, Mr GARDEN,
Baillie Macwhassel, Mr FREEBORN,
Hela, Mr IRELAND, Jamie, Master MARSHALL,
Dame Gourlie, Mrs EMBDEN, Effie, Mrs DIDDEAR,
Jessie, Miss FAIRBROTHER,
Prudence Miss MARSHALL, The Sylph Miss BALLIN

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

German Opera.

This Evening, Beethoven's Opera of

FIDELIO.

Don Fernando, (Minister of State) Herr PICHON,
Don Pizarro (Governor of the Prison) Herr STAUDIGL
Florestan, (a Prisoner) Herr EICHBERGER,
Rocco..... (the Jailor)..... Herr MELLINGER,
Jaquino, (Door-keeper) Herr ERNST,
Captain..... Herr RONENBERG,
An Officer, Herr HESSE,
Fidelio ..... Madame S. HEINEFETTER,
Marcelline, Fraulein GNED.
Soldiers, &c., by

THE CHORUS

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF HERR ROECKEL,

Herr LACHNER,

(Musical Director in Ordinary to the Grand Duke of Baden) will preside over the

ORCHESTRA

Which will be composed, on a very Extensive Scale, of eminent German Musicians.

Conductor, Herr GANZ.

☞ *Prices of Admission :—*

Dress Boxes, 7s. First and Second Circles, 5s. Pit 3s. 6d.
Gallery 2s.

To-morrow, Robert the Devil.

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